

FIREBUG SOUGHT WHEN FIERCE BLAZE FOLLOWS THREATS

That her home was maliciously set on fire, causing an estimated damage of \$200, threatening for a time to wreck it, was the statement made to The Times and the police this morning by Mrs. Mary E. Colston, who conducts a boarding house at 1301 K street northwest.

The blaze, which was discovered among some waste paper in the basement room of the house at 1:28 o'clock last night, spread rapidly through the cellar and ate its way through the floor to the dining room. Mrs. Colston said that had it not been for the prompt arrival of firemen she believes the house would have burned to the ground.

Man Made Threats.
"I am certain the fire was of incendiary origin," Mrs. Colston told The Times. "A threat was made last Friday by a man that he would 'get even with me,' and that he would fire my house. I believe this man, whose name and address the police have, attempted to make good his threats. Shortly before the fire was discovered last night, a man was in the hall. Some of us gave chase, but the intruder ran to the cellar and made his escape. My servants say they did not see anyone other than employees in the cellar, but I, as well as others who board at my house, am certain a man ran out of the house. The fire was found a few minutes later.

Nearly Exploded Boiler.
"On Friday night, cold water was allowed to run into the furnace boiler and prompt discovery prevented an explosion. I believe that the same man, whom I suspect of causing the fire last night, turned the water into the boiler believing it would cause the boiler to explode and wreck the house."

Second precinct policemen and Fire Marshal Nicholson today are investigating the fire. Mrs. Colston's "suspect" is also being sought in connection with the fire.

That he can be questioned.